

Message Text

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42

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 PM-07 DODE-00 INR-10 RSC-01 /041 R

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R 121633Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

UNCLAS STATE 136308

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN (JOHNSON, SAMUEL)

SUBJECT: INJURED LIBERIAN STUDENT

1. SAMUEL JOHNSON, TEEN-AGE SON OF BRIG. GEN. AND MRS. PANDORA JOHNSON (IDENTIFIED AS ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LAND AND MINES), BROKE HIS NECK IN SWIMMING ACCIDENT JUNE 17 AND HAS SINCE BEEN PARALYZED FROM NECK DOWN. ALTHOUGH CONSCIOUS AND LUCID, PARALYSIS IS TOTAL AND JOHNSON ONLY ABLE BREATH THROUGH USE OF RESPIRATOR. JOHNSON TRANSFERRED FROM SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA JULY 10 TO CRAIG INSTITUTE IN DENVER. DOCTORS AT FITSIMMONS ARMY MEDICAL CENTER, WHICH HAS COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT WITH CRAIG, SUGGESTED JOHNSON BE TRANSFERRED WALTER REED. THIS ALTERNATIVE EXPLORED BUT NOT AVAILABLE.

2. AT TIME OF ACCIDENT, JOHNSON WAS PARTICIPANT IN TEN MONTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM SPONSORED BY YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING HEADQUARTED ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN. MRS. JOHNSON IS WITH SAMUEL IN DENVER, BUT DEPARTMENT HAS NOT SPOKEN WITH HER. EMBASSY MAY WISH EXPRESS SYMPATHY TO GEN. JOHNSON THIS UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT AND TRY DETERMINE IF WE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE. ROGERS

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